2008 Catholic Secondary Principals Australia (CaSPA) Conference

*Downloading the Gospel of God*

28th September – 1st October 2008

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Glenelg, Adelaide
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The Gospel of God: A Sure Hope at Creation’s Heart, Fr Philip Marshall, Parish Priest; Principal of the CTC; President of the ACD Hectorville Catholic Community, SA; Catholic Theological College; Adelaide College of Divinity, SA

Philip is a priest of the Archdiocese of Adelaide and parish priest of the Hectorville Catholic Community which is exploring a vision of church as communion that seeks to integrate landscape, architecture, liturgy and pastoral strategies as a response and witness to the Gospel of God. He is also Principal of the Adelaide Catholic Theological College, where he teaches ecclesiology. Philip’s particular interest lies in the theology of communion and the local church. His research and theology has been influenced by the work of the French Dominican theologian Jean-Marie Tillard, with whom he lived and studied in 1999.

Abstract: From the beginning God speaks a word of hope to fractured creation, a promise that the divisions and fractures of human hearts, relationships and creation will one day be mended. That ‘Gospel of God’ is made good in Christ, through whom all peoples and all creation are invited into a communion of divine love in which we are made whole by one another, where difference constitutes rather than divides, and unity is not uniformity. The nature, relationships, life and mission of the church are all revealed in the working out of this ‘Gospel of God.’

The Gospel of God: good news for the whole creation, Fr Denis Edwards Senior Lecturer in Theology, Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA

Denis Edwards is a priest of the Archdiocese of Adelaide and priest in residence at Goodwood parish. He lectures in theology in Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA. He has a MA from Fordham University and a doctorate in theology from The Catholic University of America. Recent publications include Breath of Life: Theology of the Creator Spirit (2004) and Ecology at the Heart of Faith (2006)

Abstract: Pope John Paul II called us to an ecological conversion. One of the urgent tasks for theology and for Catholic educators is to show the links between love and care for God’s creation and the very heart of Christian faith. How does the gospel of God, the good news of our salvation in Christ, make a difference to the whole creation? How does our following of Jesus today connect to an ecological way of life?

Uploading good news: is the media a help or a hindrance in Catholic Education? Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting

Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ Directs the Australian Catholic Office for Film & Broadcasting. He lectures in cinema and theology at the United Faculty of Theology and has been a visiting lecturer in Australian Cinema at the University of Melbourne. In 2006 he was appointed a visiting professor at the Gregorian University in Rome, and will return there in late 2008. He is an honorary fellow of the Australian Catholic University.

Fr Leonard has served on juries at the Venice, Berlin, Hong Kong, Brisbane and Melbourne International Festivals and has lectured on film, faith and culture across Australia and the Pacific, the UK and the USA.

He is the author of “Movies That Matter: Reading Film Through the Lens of Faith” (Loyola University Press, Chicago), “Preaching to the Converted Throughout the Sundays and Feastdays of the Year” (Paulist Press, New York) and “Beloved Daughters” David Lovell Press, Melbourne. He has been commissioned by Loyola Press Chicago to write “Entertaining Faith” which will appear in late 2008.

Abstract: After the Family and the school, the media culture is the third largest influence on the formation on our students. We ignore it at our peril. Without canonising or ignoring it, Dr Leonard will explore the features of it that are helpful to Catholic Education and those aspects that are opposed to the Gospel of God. It is not just what the media says that forms the agenda we need to consider, but, also, what they rarely or positively portray – being a sane, sincere, practising and contemporary Catholic.

Geraldine Doogue, Facilitator and TV Personality

Whilst originally planning a career as a schoolteacher after completing her Arts degree, in 1972 Geraldine applied on an impulse for a journalism cadetship with The West Australian instead. Since then she has thrived on that impulsive decision.

Within the first ten years of her career, Geraldine had carved out a reputation in print, television and radio, including two years at the London Bureau working for the Murdoch group’s Australian papers.
Her entrance into television was unexpected. Whilst covering a story for *The Australian*, an ABC Television reporter interviewed her for a *Four Corners* program. When the head office executives saw the interview, they were so impressed with her on-camera presence that they offered Geraldine the Perth compare's position for ABC Television's then new program *Nationwide*.

She soon moved to Sydney to host the NSW edition of the program and established herself as one of the most respected and popular personalities on national television.

Geraldine then worked for a time on commercial radio with 2UE and on commercial television, co-presenting Channel 10's main news bulletin, before returning to the ABC in 1990. She played a major role in ABC TV's coverage of the Gulf War. During this period Geraldine was awarded two Penguin Awards and a United Nations Media Peace Prize.

In 1992 Geraldine began presenting *Life Matters*, a new ABC Radio National program that set out to cover the full gamut of social issues in everyday life. In 1998, she also became host of ABC TV's *Compass* program, which looks at issues of spirituality, philosophy and belief every Sunday evening. After 11 years with *Life Matters*, Geraldine moved to Saturday mornings to host a program focussing on international politics, Australia's role on the world stage, and business.

In 2000 Geraldine was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for social and cultural reporting. In 2003, she was recognised with an Officer in the Order of Australia for services to the community and media.

She is married with two children and two step-children.

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**Encountering God in Africa: Is the Missionary converted?** Brother Russell Peters cfc, Development Officer Christian Brothers East Africa, Christian Brothers East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda)

Brother Russell has been in East Africa for just over four years. He has been Dean of about fifteen African Christian Brother Tertiary Students, acted as Spiritual Guide for African men and women Religious, lectured at Catholic University of Eastern Africa and completed a Masters in African Studies. He has assisted in setting up in Nairobi of cross cultural Immersion experiences for men and women from first world countries and the creation of partnerships between African and Australian communities. From 1962 until 2004 he was involved in teaching, education leadership and various youth ministry initiatives in Victoria and Tasmania.

**Abstract:** Christianity has been in Africa for just over 100 years. Many devoted African Christians, whilst celebrating their encounter with the Christian “God (deliberate) News”, mourn the suppression and destruction of the many positive traditional beliefs and life giving practices. Today most churches in central Kenya are built with their altars facing Mount Kenya, the traditional home of the African Creator God when he (yes, God is he in African culture) is on inspection on earth. Is the African understanding and experience of God becoming more Christian or is the Christian understanding and experience of God becoming more African?
Workshop Abstracts

Workshop Sessions - Monday 29 September, 1.15pm – 2.15pm and 2.20pm – 3.20pm

1A/2A Reading the Signs: Joined-Up Living for the New Millennium, Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ, Lecturer in Theology, Heythrop College, University of London, UK

Today’s widespread secularisation privileges individual well being over the notion of the common good. Profit and efficiency have become higher values than the survival of human persons and the environment. Life choices inspired by the Catholic sacramental imagination enable us to resist secularisation and respond with a critical and constructive discourse and praxis to the challenges of contemporary culture.

If evangelisation is at the heart of the church’s mission, we are in turn ‘evangelized’ by our prevailing culture. The church’s creative resources confirm us in the power of the Christian faith, its credibility and its beauty.

1B/2B Church, Schools and the World God Wants: A new approach? Fr Philip Marshall, Parish Priest; Principal of the CTC; President of the ACD Hectorville Catholic Community, SA; Catholic Theological College; Adelaide College of Divinity, SA

This workshop will explore the need for new models of school/parish relationship as we respond to the challenges of being church today. It will look at the experience of the Hectorville Catholic Community in South Australia and invite participants into creative and critical thinking around the questions of building effective and contemporary communities of faith.

1C/2C Volunteering as Faith in Action, Anne O’Donoghue, Treasurer, Food Water Shelter Incorporated, NSW

1D/2D Sustainability – Response to God As Co-Creators, Brother Vincent Mallya cfc, Deputy Principal, Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School, Arusha, Tanzania Christian Brothers East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda)

Africans view themselves as part of the environment. This is due to their communal attitude, which includes God, Nature, and others as part of one community, with God as the creator of all. In traditional In African culture, a person has moral responsibility towards nature and environment, keeping harmony and peace in the web of life. Accordingly, at ERSSS the animal (including human) waste has been converted to biogas for heating and for cooking food for the 200+ boarders. All rain water is harvested and treated grey water used to irrigate the gardens.

Workshop Sessions - Tuesday 30 September, 1.15pm – 2.15pm and 2.25pm – 3.20pm

3A/4A Ecology and the Eucharist, Fr Denis Edwards Senior Lecturer in Theology, Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA

How do ecological issues, such as global climate change, impact on our celebrations of the Eucharist? How is Eucharistic worship related to ecological action and life-styles? The proposal advanced in this workshop is that, when Christians gather for Eucharist, they bring the Earth and all its creatures, and in some way the whole universe, to the table.

3B/4B We have to know the good news before we can share it, Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting

As leaders in Catholic Education we are called upon to share with our communities the mission of the church in the world – so they see the school’s role within that mission, and identify with the good work the church is doing, and, hopefully, see themselves as part of it now and in the future as adult believers. In this workshop Fr Leonard will download the facts on who it is we
are trying to speak with, and what the church has to offer our compatriots.

3C/4C Fr Christian Fini, Coordinator, National Youth Ministry and Vocations

The concept of young people in the Church is often a reality compartmentalised into two areas, Catholic Education and Youth Groups. Some young people participate in both but in many ways both remain two very different worlds. A genuine approach to Youth Ministry should challenge this compartmentalised reality.

The WYD phenomena has been an opportunity to bridge this seemingly large chasm that divides them. If nothing else WYD has made the tension a little more obvious. The Australian Church is already asking: ‘What is the aftermath of WYD?’ ‘How has WYD challenge the face of Youth Ministry in Australia?’ and ‘What is the legacy of the WYD?’

3D/4D Youth & the Gospel: Unable to establish a connection? Bernadette Toohey, Youth Minister, ……

Is it possible for young people to find meaning and value in the Gospel of God? Bernadette explores how she has discovered the relevance, beauty and power of the Gospel of God in a faith journey that has taken her from the classroom to the muddy terrain of the Kokoda Trail, a disused airfield in Germany, the serene grotto of Lourdes and back again. Bernadette speaks from her experiences about downloading the Gospel of God in a way that engages young people, and explores why she has continued on her faith journey when so many of her peers have not.

3E/4E The lived experience of an African God and the God of Jesus, Brother Francis Otieno Omondi cfc, Deputy Principal, Beausang Catholic Education Centre, Embulbul, Nairobi

Who is God for me as an African? What do I carry as the major moral values of my ancestors that make me a Christian today? There are many myths and ideas about God in my Ethnic Tribe in Kenya (Luo). I wish to share reflections on the impact the early missionaries had on us Africans and what we, as well as the other cultures around me and us, feel about what has happened to our quality of life. As Africans we frequently ask, are we really at home with Christianity?

3F/4F Youth Ministry………Phil Lewis group………

CONFERENCE VENUE

Stamford Grand Hotel
Moseley Square, Glenelg, Adelaide

The Stamford Grand Hotel is located on South Australia’s premier beach district, Glenelg, where you can catch the famous tram to the heart of the city centre of Adelaide (only a few minutes away). You might also consider a trip to the superb wine regions of South Australia before or after the Conference.

We recommend you book early so as not to be disappointed. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of the discounted Early Bird Registration and book your accommodation and travel as soon as possible to secure these conference rates. We have block bookings at a number of Hotels; however we must confirm these booking 30days prior to the Conference. We only have a limited number of rooms at the smaller cheaper hotels so you will need to book early to secure this accommodation.
Program

**Sunday 28 September 2008**

2.00pm –  5.00pm  Registration

5.00pm - 5.45pm  Delegates are welcome to join in the local Mass in Glenelg Catholic Church, Our Lady of Victory (This is a 5-minute walk from the Stamford Grand Hotel)

6.00pm  Welcome Reception – Taste of South Australia (this function will include a tasting of local wines and the famous Coopers Beer, plus a range of gourmet South Australia produce).

7.30pm  Free Evening  (Delegates may choose to dine at one on the many Glenelg restaurants on the door step of the Stamford Grand Hotel. You may wish to join a party by adding your name to a restaurant listed on the notice board. This will be at your own cost).

**Monday 29 September 2008**

8.00am  Registration continues

8.45am  Morning Liturgy

9.15am  Keynote Address 1:  *The Gospel of God: A Sure Hope at Creation’s Heart,*  Fr Philip Marshall, Parish Priest; Principal of the CTC; President of the ACD Hectorville Catholic Community, SA; Catholic Theological College; Adelaide College of Divinity, SA

10.15am  Q & A from delegates

10.30am  Morning Tea

11.00am  Keynote Address 2: ……………………………
Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ, Lecturer in Theology, Heythrop College, University of London, UK

12.15pm  Q & A from delegates

12.30pm  Lunch

1.30pm  Workshops Session 1

1A  *Reading the Signs: Joined-Up Living for the New Millennium,*  Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ, Lecturer in Theology, Heythrop College, University of London, UK

1B  *Church, Schools and the World God Wants: A new approach?*  Fr Philip Marshall, Parish Priest; Principal of the CTC; President of the ACD Hectorville Catholic Community, SA; Catholic Theological College; Adelaide College of Divinity, SA

1C  *Volunteering as Faith in Action,*  Anne O’Donoghue, Treasurer, Food Water Shelter Incorporated, NSW

1D  *Sustainability – Response to God As Co-Creators,*  Brother Vincent Mallya cfc, Deputy Principal, Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School, Arusha, Tanzania Christian Brothers East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda)

1E  ………………….Sr Catherine Clark rsj

1F  *Feminine Spirituality,*  Bernadette Kiley…………………

2.30pm  Move to next workshop

2.40pm  Workshop Session 2 (session 1 repeated)

2A  *Reading the Signs: Joined-Up Living for the New Millennium,*  Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ, Lecturer in Theology, Heythrop College, University of London, UK

2B  *Church, Schools and the World God Wants: A new approach?*  Fr Philip Marshall, Parish Priest; Principal of the CTC; President of the ACD Hectorville Catholic Community, SA; Catholic Theological College; Adelaide College of Divinity, SA

2C  *Volunteering as Faith in Action,*  Anne O’Donoghue, Treasurer, Food Water Shelter Incorporated, NSW

2D  *Sustainability – Response to God As Co-Creators,*  Brother Vincent Mallya cfc, Deputy Principal, Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School, Arusha, Tanzania Christian Brothers East Africa (Kenya,
Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda)

2E ........................Sr Catherine Clark rsj ........................

2F  feminine spirituality, Bernadette Kiley ........................

3.40pm  
Afternoon Tea and networking

5.30pm  
Meet in foyer of Stamford Grand Hotel. Delegates will then walk to the Glenelg Tram which will take them to the city for a short walk to Government House.

6.30pm  
Optional Cocktail Reception at Government House – TBC This evening will be hosted by the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC CVO MBE. (After this a number of CBD restaurants will be booked for dinner and a member of the Conference Committee will accompany you to dinner. This will be at your own cost. – You will need to register for this event)

Tuesday 30 September 2008

8.45am  
Morning Liturgy

9.15am  
Keynote Address 3: Encountering God in Africa: Is the Missionary converted?  
Brother Russell Peters cfc, Development Officer Christian Brothers East Africa, Christian Brothers East Africa (Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda)

10.15am  
Q & A from delegates

10.30am  
Morning Tea

11.00am  
Keynote Address 4: The Gospel of God: good news for the whole creation,  
Fr Denis Edwards Senior Lecturer in Theology, Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA

12.00pm  
Q & A from delegates

12.15pm  
Lunch

1.15pm  
Workshop Session 3

3A  Ecology and the Eucharist, Fr Denis Edwards Senior Lecturer in Theology, Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA

3B  We have to know the good news before we can share it, Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting

3C  ....................... Fr Christian Fini omi, Coordinator, National Youth Ministry and Vocations, VIC

3D  Youth & the Gospel: Unable to establish a connection? Bernadette Toohey, Youth Minister, ........

3E  The lived experience of an African God and the God of Jesus,  
Brother Francis Otieno Omondi cfc, Deputy Principal, Beausang Catholic Education Centre, Embulbul, Nairobi

3F  ......................... Youth Ministry – Phil Lewis group

2.15pm  
Move to next session

2.25pm  
Workshop Session 4 (session 3 repeated)

4A  Ecology and the Eucharist  
Fr Denis Edwards Senior Lecturer in Theology, Catholic Theological College and Flinders University, SA

4B  We have to know the good news before we can share it, Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting

4C  ......................... Fr Christian Fini omi, National Youth Ministry and Vocations Coordinator, VIC

4D  Youth & the Gospel: Unable to establish a connection? Bernadette Toohey, Youth Minister, ........

4E  The lived experience of an African God and the God of Jesus  
Brother Francis Otieno Omondi cfc, Deputy Principal, Beausang Catholic Education Centre, Embulbul, Nairobi
Wednesday 1 October 2008

8.45am  Morning Liturgy

9.15am  Keynote Address 5: *Uploading good news: is the media a help or a hindrance in Catholic Education?* Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting

10.15am  Q & A from delegates

10.30am  Morning Tea

11.00am  Panel Session facilitated by Sr Catherine Clark rsj
  • Fr Philip Marshall
  • Sr Gemma Simmonds
  • Fr Richard Leonard
  • Fr Denis Edwards

12.00pm  Closing Ceremony (South Australian Branch) and Liturgy (Tasmanian Branch)

12.30pm  Lunch

1.30pm  Conference concludes

2.00pm – 4.00pm  Option School Visits
  • Christian Brothers College
  • Nazareth Catholic Community

Include MAP of GLENELG area